Honored committee members,

There are many reasons why an additional tax on ammunition is not justified. This is a punitive tax on all firearm owners purported to address actions by a very small percentage of legal gun owners.

Take note that since a permit or license is already required to purchase ammunition in Connecticut, it is unlikely that criminals who have illegally obtained firearms will be purchasing ammunition legally.

The type of programs that this tax will fund have no record of improving gun safety. It can be argued that this tax will force firearm owners to fund those who wish to further restrict their Right to do so.

This tax will negatively affect the poorest citizens, who may have the most need of the protection afforded by owning a firearm.

A tax on ammunition will make proper training through practice more expensive and therefore reduce the amount of training, ultimately making firearm use less safe.

These are all true statements and valid points, however, the most important reason for this committee to deny this tax is that our Right to keep and bear arms includes ammunition as it is an integral and essential part of any firearm, and all types of arms.

The proposed excise tax on ammunition is an extreme infringement on Article 1, Section 15 of the Constitution of the State of Connecticut and of the Second Amendment to the US Constitution, and a violation of the oath you swore upon taking office.

Regards,
Mark Conrad